GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:807
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2000
PURCHASE OF TANKS
JASWANT SINGH YADAV;SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (PATIL)

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that 60 regiment of the Army's Armoured Corps are in dire need of new tanks;

(b) if so, the number of tanks to be purchased during the current year;

(c) the time by which the ageing Vijayanta Tank is likely to be replaced by T-90 tanks; and

(d) the time schedule framed for upgradation of T-72 tanks?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) No, Sir. All the regiments of Army's Armoured Corps do not require new tanks. Only eight regiments holding vintage Vijayanta tanks whose operational effectiveness is not up to the mark require new tanks.

(b) 310 T-90 Tanks are likely to be contracted during the current year. In addition, T-72 tanks from Heavy Vehicle Factory, Madras will be procured.

(c) The ageing Vijayanta Tank is likely to be replaced by T-90s Tanks within 4 years after finalisation of the Contract agreement with Russia.

(d) Upgradation of T-72 Tanks is an on-going process and will continue during the life span of the equipment.